

Cement sales in Dec up 60% over last year

New Delhi: Leading cement makers on Monday reported up to 60% increase in sales in December 2009 over the same month last year on the back of pick up in demand from real estate and infrastructure sectors.

ACC, the country's largest cement maker, however, reported a marginal decline in December sales at 18.8 lakh tonnes as against 19 lakh tonnes in the same month previous year.

Jaiprakash Associates clocked a 60% growth in sales in the month at 10.59 lakh tonnes, Ambuja Cements posted a 4% growth to 17.29 lakh tonnes and Shree Cement's despatches grew by 22.4% to 8.58 lakh tonnes. **Shiva Cements reported 34.9% increase in sales,** while Dalmia's despatches stood at 3.48 lakh tonnes, up 37.4% from the same month a year ago. AGENCIES